

Boney M. - Oceans Of Fantasy (1979)

Written by bluelover

Saturday, 22 May 2010 21:35 - Last Updated Tuesday, 26 July 2016 08:25

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01. *Let It All Be Music* (Music by S.W. Van Vugt, Lyrics by C.Kolonovits) - 4:47
02. *Gotta Go Home* (Music by Frank Farian and H.Huth, Lyrics by F.Jay and J.Huth) - 3:45
03. *Bye Bye Bluebird* (Written by Frank Farian, Fred Jay and George Reyam (Hans-Jörg Mayer)) - 4:47
04. *Bahama Mama* (Music by Frank Farian, Lyrics by Fred Jay) - 3:16
05. *Hold On I'm Coming* (Written by Isaac Hayes, David Porter) - 3:35
06. *Two Of Us* (Written by Paul McCartney, credited to Lennon/McCartney) - 3:14
07. *Ribbons Of Blue* (Written by Keith Forsey, L.Andrew) - 4:02
08. *Oceans Of Fantasy* (Written by D.Kawohl, Zill and F.Jay) - 5:07
09. *El Lute* (Written by Frank Farian, Fred Jay, Hans Blum) - 5:55
10. *No More Chain Gang* (Music by Rainer Ehrhardt, Frank Farian and Fred Jay, Lyrics by S.Klinkhammer and K.Forsey) - 5:21
11. *I'm Born Again* (Written by Traditional, Helmut Rulofs and Fred Jay) - 4:08
12. *No Time To Lose* (Music by Frank Farian, Fred Jay, Stefan Klinkhammer, Lyrics by Stefan Klinkhammer) - 2:55
13. *The Calendar Song (January, February, March...)* (Music by Frank Farian, Lyrics by C.Kolonovits) - 2:40

Personnel:

- Liz Mitchell - lead vocals, backing vocals
- Marcia Barrett - lead vocals, backing vocals
- Frank Farian - lead vocals, backing vocals
- Precious Wilson - guest lead vocals on track 01, lead and backing vocals on 05
- Linda Blake - voice of "Bahama Mama" on 04
- Bill Swisher - narrator on 09
- Gary Unwin, Reinhard Besser - bass guitar
- Keith Forsey - drums
- Mats Björklund, Nick Woodland - guitar
- Michael Cretu - keyboards
- Lisa Gordanier - saxophone (alto)
- American Horns In Europe - brass instruments
- Lance Burton - saxophone (baritone)
- Bobby Stern - saxophone (tenor)

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- Geoff Stradling - trombone
- Jim Polivka, Scot Newton - trumpet
- Etienne Cap, Walter Raab, Karl Bartelmes - trumpet on 08
- Benny Gebauer - saxophone on 08
- Dino Solera - saxophone on 08, pan flute on 09
- George Delagaye - trombone on 08
- Ludwig Rehberg Jr. - sound effects on 08
- The Original Trinidad Steel And Showband

By the time Oceans of Fantasy was released in 1979, Boney M. had become a worldwide sensation thanks to Frank Farian's canny combination of bubblegum-ish pop hooks with slick disco-minded production. Oceans of Fantasy continues very much in this vein: "Gotta Go Home" mixes a wordless singalong hook, an insistent dance beat, and some exotic steel drumwork to create a reggae-styled slice of bubblegum disco, while "Bye Bye Bluebird" transforms what could have been a ballad into a bouncy pop tune by raising the tempo and adding an elastic bassline. It also boasts one of the group's finest hits in "El Lute," the sentimental tale of a freedom-fighting Spanish outlaw that is reminiscent of the ABBA classic "Fernando." However, not all the songs on Oceans of Fantasy live up to this high standard of quality: the title track boasts a lush arrangement but lacks the insistent hooks that would bring it to life, and "Bahama Mama" is cloyingly cutesy even by Boney M. standards. Another problem with the album is that its 52-minute running time is simply too long: Boney M.'s effervescent sound is the kind of music that is most effective when delivered in a short dose, and some judicious pruning of the song list could have resulted in a more consistent and engaging album. With those criticisms in mind, Oceans of Fantasy still offers enough solid dance-pop to keep the group's fans happy. ---Donald A. Guarisco, Rovi

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